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Attorney Docket No. 15966-518

Date of Deposit: December 29, 2003

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICANT(S): Mehta et al.

TECH CENTER 1600/2900

SERIAL NO.: 09/351,617

EXAMINER: P. Ponnaluri

FILING DATE: July 12, 1999

ART UNIT: 1639

FOR: GENERAL SCREENING METHOD FOR LIGAND-PROTEIN INTERACTIONS

Mail Stop AF
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

PETITION FOR EXTENSION OF TIME

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.136(a), Applicants hereby petition for a five-month extension of time to respond to the Notice of Appeal filed on May 27, 2003 in the above-identified application. With this extension of time, a response is due on or before Monday, December 29, 2003 (December 27, 2003 being a Saturday). Check No. 17787 in the amount of \$1005.00, in payment of the fee required under 37 C.F.R. §1.17(a)(5), is enclosed herewith.

Please charge any additional fees that may be due, or credit any overpayment of same, to Deposit Account No. 50-0311, Reference No. 15966-518. A duplicate copy of this Petition is enclosed.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: December 29, 2003


Ivor R. Elrifi, Reg. No. 39,529
Christina K. Stock, Reg. No. 45,899

Attorneys for Applicants

c/o MINTZ, LEVIN

Tel: (617) 542-6000

Fax: (617) 542-2241

Customer No. 30623

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